WOMAN'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
—OF—
HOME MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

MRS. DARWIN R. JAMES, PRESIDENT.
MRS. FREDERICK H. PIERSON, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.
MISS ELIZABETH M. WISHARD, YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECRETARY.

MRS. D. E. FINKS,
EDITORIAL SECRETARY.
MISS S. F. LINCOLN, TREASURER.

MRS. C. E. COULTER,
COR. SEC. OF FREEDMEN'S DEP'T,
516 MARKET ST., PITTSBURG, PA.

Minutes of Conference between Officers of the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Executive Committee,

June 4th, 1897.

Finding that misunderstandings exist in the minds of Christian Endeavorers as to the most satisfactory way of sending funds, we would advise as follows, that all monies contributed by the C. E. and Junior Societies be forwarded by the local treasurers to the presbyterial treasurer of the Woman's Executive Committee, and that she send money as designated, that intended for the Board of Home Missions, to Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer, and that intended for the Woman's Executive Committee to Miss S. F. Lincoln, Treasurer, since this will decrease expense and labor at headquarters. We desire also to say to our Young People's Societies that we do not recommend the appointment of presbyterial treasurers for young people's work.

It is the sense of this meeting that our Secretary of Young People's Work is to have charge of the work done by the C. E. and Junior Societies and is also to give equal attention to the work of Sunday Schools in preparing programs for the work of the Board of Home Missions in February and for the work of the Woman's Executive Committee in November: that she is also to look after the interests of the Board of Home Missions in the Sunday Schools, pressing the work as much as possible throughout the year. The manner of doing this is referred to her with power.

It is the sense of this conference that it is wise to consider Mrs. Pingry as Assistant Sedretary in the Young People's Department, having her render whatever aid necessary in presenting the work of the Board and the Committee to the young people, the Board paying one half of her salary.

Members of this conference also understand that money from Endeavor Societies is to be applied as designated, the sum total , however, to be equally divided between the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Executive Committee.

From conference record of November 14, 1922.

After full discussion and inquiry, the paper of the Committee (appointed by the Woman's Board for the consideration of readjustment and enlargement of the Young People's Department, by the addition of a man secretary,) presented by the chairman Mrs. Bennett, was slightly changed, heartily approved, and recommended for acceptance by the Woman's Board.

The final form of the paper is as follows:-

The Young People's Department shall be a joint department responsible for missionary extension in mission bands, young people's societies and Sunday schools. The expense for it shall be borne equally by the Woman's Board and the Assembly's Board.

All receipts from young people's societies and Sunday schools shall be equally divided between the two treasuries. Money received from mission bands and young women's societies auxiliary to the Woman's Board, as heretofore, will be turned exclusively into the Woman's Board treasury.

A young man and a young woman shall be the secretaries of the Young People's Department, (the nominations for these secretaries to be made by the office conference.)

The young man shall be the responsible head of the department. His name shall be printed and included in all literature and stationery printed by the Assembly's Board.

The young woman shall have particular care for those programs and special objects which pertain to the work of the Woman's Board. Her name shall be printed and included in all literature and stationery printed by the Woman's Board.

This Department shall have its own stationery, and upon it the names of both secretaries shall appear.

These two secretaries shall at all times present the whole work of Presbyterian Home Missions. Both shall keep in direct and vital touch with the young people's societies and Sunday schools.

Printed appeals and circulars of all kinds together with missionaries' letters sent out to local societies shall bear the signature of both secretaries and be printed on the Young People's Department stationery.

E.G.S.

1906

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The young man shall be the responsible head of the Department. His name shall be printed and included in all literature and stationery printed by the Assembly's Board.

The young woman shall have particular care for those programs and special objects which pertain to the work of the Woman's Board. Her name shall be printed and included in all literature and stationery printed by the Woman's Board.

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These two secretaries shall at all times present the whole work of Presbyterian Home Missions. Both shall keep in direct and vital touch with the young people's societies and Sunday schools.

Printed appeals and circulars of all kinds together with missionaries' letters sent out to local societies shall bear the signature of both secretaries and be printed on the Young People's Department stationery.

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All receipts from young people's societies and Sunday Schools shall be equally divided between the two treasuries. Money received from mission bands, and young women's societies, as heretofore will be turned exclusively into the Woman's Board Treasury.

Mr. Don O. Shelton and Miss M. Josephine Petrie shall be invited to be the secretaries of the joint department.

Mr. Shelton shall be the responsible head of the department's editorial, educational and literary work. He shall be particularly known as the young people's secretary of the Assembly's Board and his name shall be printed and included in all literature and stationery printed by the Assembly's Board.

Miss Petrie shall be the responsible head of the department of "special objects" or "forward movement" plans. She shall be particularly known as the young people's secretary of the Woman's Board, and her name shall be printed and included as heretofore in all literature and stationery printed by the Woman's Board.

The joint department shall have, as heretofore, its own stationery, and upon it the names of both secretaries shall appear.

Mr. Shelton is to exploit the whole work of Presbyterian Home Missions when in the field and through the office, by keeping in vital and direct touch with the 4-15
societies through committees of presbyteries and synods.

Miss Petrie is to do the same thing when in the field and through the office, through the young people's presbyterial and synodical societies.

Joint printed appeals and circulars of all kinds shall be made to the local societies and missionaries' letters sent out to local societies shall bear the signatures of both secretaries and be printed on the young people's department stationery.

CONFERENCE ON WORK AMONG THE YOUTH

in

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES

The General Assembly of 1909 adopted the following resolutions in reference to "its educational work among the children and youth:"

> 18. That the Assembly unify its educational work among the children and youth, by committing it for general supervision to the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work, to which the Assembly has already committed it in part, and that it is hereby so committed.
>
> 19. That the said Board shall cooperate with the other Boards of the Church in assisting pastors and Sessions, in the home and congregations, through Sunday-schools and other organizations, in the education of the young in the Bible, in the doctrines, government and history of our Church, and also in their nurture in the missionary and benevolent activities of our Church.
>
> 20. That the said Board shall have and is hereby given the supervision of all the Sunday-school work of the Church, shall promote the efficiency of existing schools, and shall organize new Sunday-schools in the interest of the nurture of the young; provided, such organizations shall be in harmony with the missionary policy of the respective Presbyteries.
>
> 24. That the Boards of Home Missions and Foreign Missions be and hereby are instructed to enter into such relations with the Board of Sunday-school and Young People's Work, for the conduct of the work now being done by them among the young people and Sunday-schools, as shall in every way contribute toward effecting the Assembly's purpose of unifying the agencies of our Church that are dealing with the young.

~~We understand these resolutions to mean that the General Assembly has unified its educational work among the children and youth now being carried on by the Boards of Home Missions and Foreign Missions and Publication and Sabbath-school Work, and committed it "for general supervision to the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work."~~

We ~~further~~ understand these resolution to mean that it is the intention of the General Assembly that these three Boards shall so cooperate in their efforts to "assist pastors and Sessions, in the home and congregations, through Sunday-schools and other organizations, in the education of the young in the Bible, in the doctrine, governments and history of our Church, and also in their nurture in the missionary and benevolent activities of our Church," "as shall in every way contribute ~~contribute~~ toward effecting the Assembly's purpose of unifying the agencies of our Church that are dealing with the young."

In the light of this action of the General Assembly, this Conference agrees that it will endeavor to devise plans of work, and adopt methods of cooperation, that will have the effect of progressively ~~unifying~~ federating the work the three Boards are now conducting for the youth of our Church.

As tending toward this unification of work, the following plans and methods are suggested:

I. COOPERATION IN SUNDAY-SCHOOL WORK.

1. By a joint presentation of the S.S. missionary work of the three Boards at meetings of the General Assembly, Synods and Presbyteries.

2. By cooperation of Committees of Synod and Presbytery.

3. By Sunday-school Institutes or Conferences, conducted in the interests of the three Boards.

4. By the presentation of plans for the systematic study of missions in the Sunday-school, and the encouragement of all our schools to adopt such plans as a part of their Sunday-school work.

5. By the preparation of literature on Systematic Beneficence, for use in Sunday-schools, to be prepared under the auspices of the three Boards and sent to pastors and superintendents with our joint approval.

6. By presenting missionary illustrations in the Westminster Teacher and other S.S. publications in connection with the study of the International Sunday-school Lessons.

7. By having a full list of missionary books and literature at the depositories of the Board of Publication; and, wherever it is advisable, by the publication of imprint editions of missionary books.

II. COOPERATION IN WORK AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE.

1. By Cooperation in Educational Activities.

(a). In outlining, securing the text for, and promoting a course for use in study classes; this course to cover all the subjects in which Presbyterian young people ought to receive instruction, and to lay emphasis upon each subject in proportion to the importance and the need for educational work along that line.

(b). In outlining, securing the text for, and promoting a reading course covering the same ground as that described above, but popular in character.

(c). In outlining, securing the text for, and promoting a course of supplemental lessons to be used in young people's prayer-meetings.

(d). In preparing programs for the missionary meetings of young people's [illegible], and securing the use of same.

2. By Cooperation in Publishing and Circulating Literature.

(a). Through circulars announcing the combined work of all Departments, to be sent out from the three offices.

(b). Through efforts put forth by all three Departments to give as wide circulation as may be desired, to literature sent out from any one office.

(c). By such joint use of the press, i.e. The Assembly Herald, Forward, etc., as may seem practicable.

(d). Whenever expedient, by so editing the literature of any one Department that it may meet the needs of all, and may be used by all.

3. By Cooperation, whenever expedient, in all forms of Conventions.

(a). Working together for the summer Conferences, as heretofore.

(b). Uniting and leading the various Presbyterial workers to unite, in order to have better and more influential Presbyterial rallies.

(c). Conducting Institutes or Conventions jointly.

4. By Cooperation in Promoting Mission Study Classes.

This could be done by assigning to one office (preferably to the Educational Department of the Foreign Board, on account of its equipment), the duty of promoting and taking care of all mission study classes, it being understood that both of the other offices will cooperate with it so far as possible. This arrangement will provide for the proportionate use of both Home and Foreign text books among the young people, and likewise will not neglect the advertisement of texts on other missionary themes, such, for instance, as that on The Freedmen, soon to be issued by the Young People's Missionary Movement. In the event that this plan seemed advisable, some arrangement might be made whereby the Home Board would pay its share of the expense incurred for the united work.

XII. COOPERATION THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH.

That a brief statement be prepared embodying the decisions of this Conference, and asking for the hearty cooperation in making them effective of pastors, Sunday-school superintendents, leaders of young people's societies, and all others engaged in the work for the youth of our Church.

Conference on
G. P.'s Work

Young People 1909
Pa. file

Meeting of Joint Committee of Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, Home Board and Foreign Board, held June 18,1909.

Present, Miss Petrie, Rev. John Dixon, D. D., representing the Home Board, Rev. Alexander Henry, D. D., Mr. Gelston, representing the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, Rev. Stanley White, D. D., Dr. T. H. P. Sailer, Rev. George H. Trull, Rev. A. W. Halsey, D. D., representing the Foreign Board.

Dr. Henry was chosen Chairman, Dr. Halsey Secretary.

Prayer by Dr. Dixon.

Dr. Henry stated the object of the meeting.

Dr. Halsey read the Resolution of the General Assembly bearing on the question of the relation of the three Boards. General discussion of the various questions involved was participated in by the representatives of the various Boards, every member present taking part.

Dr. Henry said it was wise for us to get together.

Dr. Dixon stated the position of his Board, that they desired to furnish all the information possible and draw in as large an amount of money from the Sunday Schools and Young People as they were able.

Dr. Sailer discussed at some length the relation in which the Educational Department, under his charge, stood to this question of federation or of union. He doubted very much the advisability of union. He thought some form of federation might be done.

Mr. Gelston expressed his opinion that a change was desirable from the present method of operations as conducted by the various Boards in their relation to young people. Many of the things now done separately would better be done together.

Dr. Dixon offered a resolution that the Home and Foreign Boards send all appeals through the Young People's Department of the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work. After discussion this motion was withdrawn.

Dr. White said that as far as he understood the discussion of the Committee on Administrative Agencies, they turned their faces in the direction of unity.

Mr. Gelston expressed opinion that union could be had along the following lines:-

First - We could combine on literature.

Second - Combine in a course to be recommended to the pastor as to a standard course of study for various topics in which the young people should be instructed.

Third - We could combine in issuing programmes.

Fourth - Combine on the question of Christian stewardship.

All were agreed on the necessity of inculcating habits of consecrating everything to Christ and could agree subsequently on plans by which this should be done.

Fifth - We could take the burden off the pastor in the matter of reducing the number of reports presented by various officials of Young People's Societies.

Mr. Trull spoke for the Sunday School. Thought they might co-operate along the line of literature. He instanced what was being done by the Baptists.

Second - On field work.

Third - On a closer relation between the Presbyterial Committees on Home and Foreign Missions and Publication and Sabbath School Work.

Fourth - On the matter of correspondence.

Fifth - On the whole subject of finance.

Minutes of 6/18-09
Home Bd Bd of Pub.
Freedm- S.S. Work

It was brought out during the discussion that the contributions from the Sunday Schools to the three Boards amounted to about two hundred thousand dollars. After much discussion the following motion was adopted.-

Resolved, That the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work should be requested to submit plans which in their judgment would best facilitate the carrying out of the instructions of the Assembly regarding the education of the young people.

It was also suggested that representatives of the Boards present at this Conference be requested to send such individual suggestions to the Board of Publication as they might choose. These suggestions to be considered the individual expression of opinion of the members present and in no way to commit the Board which they represented.

The Committee adjourned to meet next Friday, June 25th., 2 P.M. in Dr. Thompson's room.

Minutes of 6/18-09

Home B'd B'd of Pub.

Foreign – & S.S. Work

MINUTES OF MEETING OF JOINT COMMITTEE OF
BOARD OF PUBLICATION & S. S. WORK
BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS &
BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Joint meeting held June 25th, 1909

PRESENT: Miss Petrie, Mrs. F. S. Bennett, President Woman's B'd Home Missions, Mrs. Ella A. Boole, Sec'y, and Dr. Charles L. Thompson of the Home Board.

Rev. Alexander Henry and Mr. Gelston of the B'd of Publication & S. S. Work
Dr. Arthur J. Brown, Dr. Stanley White, Rev. G. W. Fulton, Mr. David McConaughy, Rev. E. F. Hall, Rev. George H. Trull, and Dr. A. W. Halsey of the Foreign Board.

Dr. Brown was chosen chairman

PRAYER by Dr. Henry

MINUTES of meeting of June 16th read and approved

Dr. Henry then read the statement prepared by the Board of Publication and S. S. Work as to ways in which co-operation could be carried on between the three Boards represented in this conference.

The paper was then discussed paragraph by paragraph and the following actions were taken:

Conference on Work Among the Youth
in
Sunday Schools and
Young People's Societies

"The General Assembly of 1909 adopted the following resolutions in reference to its educational work among the children and youth-

18- That the Assembly unify its educational work among the children and youth, by committing it for general supervision to the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, to which the Assembly has already committeed it in part, and that it is hereby so committed.

19- That the said Board shall co-operate with the other Boards of the Church in assisting pastors and sessions, in the home and in congregations through Sunday schools and other organizations, in the education of the young in the Bible, in the doctrines, government and history of our Church, and also in their nurture in the missionary and benevolent activities of our Church

20- That the said Board shall have and is hereby is given the supervision of all the Sunday school work of the Church, shall promote the efficiency of existing schools, and shall organize new Sunday schools in the interest of the nurture of the young, provided such organizations shall be in harmony with the missionary policy of the respective Presbyteries.

24- That the Boards of Home Missions and Foreign Missions be and hereby are instructed to enter into such relations with the Board of Sunday school and Young People's Work, for the conduct of the work now being done by them among the young people and Sunday schools, as shall in every way contribute toward effecting the Assembly's purpose of unifying the agencies of our Church that are dealing with the young.

"We understand these resolutions to mean that it is the intention of the Gen'l Assembly that these three Boards shall so co-operate in their efforts to 'assist pastors and sessions, in the home and congregations, thro' Sunday schools and other organisations, in the education of the young in the Bible, in the doctrine, government and history of our Church, and also in their nurture in the missionary and benevolent activities of our Church', 'as shall in every way contribute toward effecting the Assembly's purpose of unifying the agencies of our Church that are dealing with the young.'

"In the light of this action of General Assembly, this conference agrees that it will endeavor to devise plans of work, and adopt methods of co-operation that will have the effect of progressively federating the work the three Boards are now conducting for the youth of our Church.

As tending toward this unification of work, the following plans and methods are suggested:

Statement first

I. Co-operation in Sunday School work.

1. By a joint presentation of the Sunday school missionary work of the three Boards at meetings of the General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery

Insert A

2. By co-operation of Committees of Synod and Presbytery

3. By Sunday school institutes xx or conferences, conducted in the interests of the three Boards.

4. By the presentation of plans for the systematic study of missions in the Sunday school, and the encouragement of all our schools to adopt such plans as a part of their Sunday school work.

5. By the preparation of literature on systematic beneficence for use in Sunday schools, to be prepared under the auspices of the three Boards and sent to pastors and superintendents with our joint approval.

6. By presenting missionary illustrations in the Westminster Teacher and other S. S. publications in connection with the study of the International S. S. Lessons.

Insert p. 2 this instead of 7 B

7. By having a full list of missionary books and literature at the depositories of the Board of Publication; and, wherever it is advisable, by the publication of imprint editions of missionary books.

II. Co-operation in Work among the Young People

1. By co-operation in Educational Activities.

(a) In outlining, securing the texts for and promoting a course for use in study classes, such course to cover the general work of the Church, including the history, form of government and the general work of the Boards. The specific work of the Boards to be directed by the Boards themselves.

(b) In outlining, securing the text for, and promoting a reading course covering the same ground as that described above, but popular in character.

(c) In outlining, securing the text for, and promoting a course of supplemental lessons to be used in the young people's prayer meetings.

(d) In recommending topics for missionary meetings and securing the use of programs prepared by the Boards.

Minutes of 5/26-09

(e) In the matter of stewardship, systematic and proportionate giving. (Information regarding 'stations' and individual work of missionaries to be given by Boards themselves.

Foreign Pub.

2. By co-operation in publishing and circulating literature
(a) Through circulars announcing the combined work of all departments, to be sent out from the three offices
(b) Through efforts put forth by all three departments to give as wide circulation as may be desired, to literature sent out from any one office
(c) By such joint use of the press, a i. e., The Assembly Herald, Forward, Woman's Work, Home Mission Monthly, Over Sea and Land, as may seem practicable.
(d) Whenever expedient, by so editing the literature of any department that it may meet the needs of all, and may be used by all

3. By co-operation, whenever expedient, in all forms of conventions
(a) Working together for the summer conferences as heretofore
(b) Taking the lead in urging the various presbyterial workers to unite in order to increase attendance and make more valuable the rallies for young people.
(c) Conducting institutes or conventions jointly.

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Suggested this be left out

4. By co-operation in promoting mission study classes.

This could be done by assigning to one office (preferably to the Educational Department of the Foreign Board, on account of its equipment) the duty of promoting and taking care of all mission study classes, it being understood that both of the other offices will co-operate with it so far as possible. This arrangement will provide for the proportionate use of both Home and Foreign text books among the young people, and likewise will not neglect the advertisement of texts on other missionary themes, such as, for instance, that on The Freedmen, soon to be issued by the Young People's Missionary Movement. In the event that this plan seemed advisable, some arrangement might be made whereby the Home Board would pay its share of the expenses incurred for the united work.

Reseolved that this paragraph be referred to the Home and Foreign Boards for consideration for the present.

III. Co-operation Throughout the Church.

That a brief statement be prepared embodying the decisions of this conference, and asking for the hearty co-operation in making them effective, of pastors, S. S. Supts., leaders of Y.P.Societies, and all others engaged in work for the youth of our Church.

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Paragraph adopted and reported adopted as a whole and referred to a Com. of three to codify and arrange and send to different Boards. Also Com. to prepare a statement for this final declaration, this Com. to consist of Miss Petrie, Mr. Gelston and Dr.Halsey.

During the discussion of "Co-operation of Work among Y.P.", the question was raised by Mrs. Boole of the Home Board whether Y.P. included all auxiliary societies distinctively organised by the Women's Boards of H. & F. Missions for a specific work such as Bands, Y.W.Societies, West. Guild Chapters, and the like. On motion this was referred to the Exec. Commission for a decision with the understanding that Mrs.Boole repsesenting the Home Board, Mrs. Halsey Wood the Foreign and Mr. Gelston the B'd of Pub. & S.S.W'k should present to the Ex. Com. the reasons for or against including these various auxiliary societies of Women's Boards in the plan of co-operation for work among young people as suggested by Gen'l Assembly. Dr. Halsey submitted a paper which was not read. This paper suggested a basis of co-operation 1.in miss'y campaigns, 2 S.S. Inst., 3 publications like Assembly Herald, where one subject such as the educational work of the Boards is to be presented in one issue, and 4, the whole subject of prayer, united prayer for special work at special seasons.

Minutes of 6/25-'09

Home Board

Foreign "

Bd of Pub. "

W.S. & B. PARAGON LINEN

② 9

Gentlemen:-

On June 25th a joint meeting of the Secretaries of the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions and the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work was held in New York City. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss plans whereby the resolutions passed ~~by~~ by the Denver General Assembly concerning the work of the three Boards, could be carried out. Among other questions mentioned, the matter of unifying the work among young people at present promoted separately by these Boards, was taken up.

During the discussion one of the ladies present asked for a ruling on the inquiry "Does the term 'Young People' include auxiliary societies distinctly organized by the Women's Boards of Home and Foreign Missions for a specific purpose, such as Bands, young women's societies, Westminster Guilds, etc., or are such organizations excluded from the classes it is meant to describe?" The import of the question apparently is this, Shall workers among young people in the Women's Boards be considered as among those asked by the last General Assembly to co-operate in unifying the Church's agencies for dealing with her young people's societies and shall the unifying agency which the Assembly desires eventually to secure, have jurisdiction over the societies promoted by and auxiliary to the Women's Boards, such as Mission Bands, Westminster Guilds, etc.

The majority of members of the conference expressed themselves as deeming this inquiry of such a nature that they would not care to settle it and a vote was therefore passed to submit it to the Executive Commission for decision.

In order that the matter might be presented before the Commission in proper shape, a committee was appointed for the purpose, consisting of Mrs. Ella Boole, of the Home Board, Mrs. Halsey Wood, of the Foreign Board, and myself from the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work. It was understood at the time that Mrs. Boole and Mrs.Wood would probably agree in desiring a decision from your hand which would not include Mission Bands, Westminster Guilds, etc. under the term "Young People." They, therefore, were commissioned to present their reasons for that desire. On the other hand it was likewise understood that from my point of view a decision ought to be rendered which would make the term "Young People" all inclusive and I was authorized to present the reasons for my position also.

It may not be necessary for me to present all of my reasons why, in carrying out the purpose of the General Assembly to unify its agencies now at work among young people, the secretaries of the Women's Boards and the societies which they promote ought not to be left out of the general scheme. The first reason is to my own mind quite sufficient, but for fear that it may not seem so to others I beg permission to mention along with it, two or three additional ones:

1. The first and strongest reason which I would cite why the term "Young People" in the Assembly's resolution (to the effect that the agencies working among young people should be unified), does, and must include the auxiliary societies of the Women's Boards of Home and Foreign Missions, lies in the fact that the Assembly made it perfectly plain in the report which it adopted that such was the case. In the body of that report (the one made by the Committee on Administrative Agencies) the secretaries of the Women's Boards and the work which they do are definitely named as among the agencies under consideration. Please let me quote from the Assembly's Blue Book as follows: (Page 32—middle of the page)

> "At the present time there are many agencies of our Church that work among the children and youth.
>
> a. The Board of Publication and Sabbath-school work........................
>
> b. The Board of Home Missions...
>
> c. The Board of Foreign Missions......................................
>
> d. The Women's Boards of Home Missions and Foreign Missions are fully organized, with corresponding secretaries, statistical secretaries, periodical secretaries for the cultivation of the same field.
>
> e. The other Boards and Synodical Sustentation Committees...................
>
> These various Boards and agencies are with frequency and urgency seeking to advance their own specific interests among the schools and societies and to secure from them, gifts.
>
> It is obvious that, with this multiplicity of agencies working in this field, there is confusion, waste of power, inefficiency of service, lack of unity, and inadequacy in results.................

> If unity, clearness and efficiency in the nurture of the youth are to be secured, then the Assembly must have some agency which will combine all of these various activities in some comprehensive scheme designed, not for the furtherance of any one of these causes, or of all combined, but for the nurture of the youth in knowledge, character and service."

After making the above statement and because of the facts therein cited, the Committee proposed the following resolutions: (Page 38 of the Blue Book.)

> "Resolved, 18. That the Assembly unify ~~the~~ its educational work among the children and youth by committing it for general supervision to the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work, to which the Assembly has already committed it in part, and that it is hereby so committed.
>
> Resolved, 19. That the said Board shall be and is hereby constituted the authorized agency of the Church for assisting pastors and Sessions, in the home and congregations, through Sunday-schools and other organizations, in the education of the young in the Bible, in the doctrines, government and history of the Church, and also in their nurture in the missionary and benevolent activities of our Church.
>
> Resolved, 24. That the Boards of Home Missions and Foreign Missions be and hereby are instructed to enter into such relations with the Board of Sunday-school and Young People's Work, for the conduct of the work now being done by them among the young people and Sunday-schools, as shall in every way contribute towards effecting the Assembly's purpose of unifying the agencies of our Church that are dealing with the young."

Before these resolutions were adopted 19 was changed to read as follows:

> "Resolved, that the said Board shall co-operate with the other Boards of the Church in assisting pastors and Sessions, in the home and congregations, through Sunday-schools and other organizations, in the education of the young in the Bible, in the doctrines, government and history of our Church, and also in their nurture in the missionary and benevolent activities of our Church."

Having agreed to this change which, so far as I can see, does not alter the meaning of the action in its relation to the ~~question now before me,~~ number of agencies asked to cooperate and therefore does not exclude the Woman's Board, the Assembly adopted the Committee's report and the resolutions given above.

It is doubtful whether any more explicit statement could be made to the effect that the Assembly desires the work now carried on by the Women's Boards among young people, and in consequence the societies which they promote, as well as the operations of all other Boards in the same field, to be included in its scheme of unification. In fact, it seems to me hardly necessary that the Executive Commission should have been called upon to determine a point which is already so clearly settled.

II. In the second place it appears to me that it was the purpose of the General Assemblies of 1907 and 1908, as well as 1909, to secure a unification of *all* of the agencies of the Church now at work among young people, not excepting those of the Women's Boards, and that the resolutions which they adopted in connection with the work of the Committee on Administrative Agencies, clearly prove that such is the case. I quote from the minutes of the two Assemblies and underscore important words.

> "The Assembly of 1907 took the following action:
> 'Resolved, that in view of the *various* and *unrelated agencies* influencing the young people of our Church, the Committee on Administrative Agencies be directed to present for the consideration of the next General Assembly some plan for a *central bureau* for the christian nurture of the young; such bureau to undertake a *comprehensive program* on the subject, including principles and modes of organization; instruction in the Bible, in missionary affairs, in Church standards and policy; practical ministry, systematic giving, devotional, manual, social or other features proper to the subject, and plans for making the same effective among churches and the young people.' (Minutes, 1907--pp. 195-196)."
>
> "The Assembly of 1908 acted favorably upon the following recommendation of the Special Committee on Administrative Agencies:
> '3. That the Committee be continued, and that it be instructed: (a) To mature *the* plans for the developement of Young People's Work, in conference with the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work, and other interested agencies.' (Minutes of 1908, pp.157-158)"

III. In the third place I sincerely believe that if a ruling is passed leaving the auxiliary societies promoted by the Women's Boards, out of the field described in the words "Young People", and in consequense taking them from the supervision of the united agency for young people's work which the Assembly wants, eventually, to secure, that the very end sought in establishing such an agency, is imperilled. The Assembly specifically intimates that it desires to be rid of the present system in which many Boards are exploiting the young people for the sake of the causes which they respectively represent. In order to do so it plans to develope a single department "which will combine all these various activities in some comprehensive scheme designed, not for the furtherance of any one of these causes, or of all combined, but for the nurture of the young in knowledge, character and service." (Blue book for Denver Assembly, p.[illegible]) Now, it is apparently merely because they want to continue to "promote their own specific work or cause" among the young, that the Women's Boards plead for their definition of the words "Young People." Furthermore, should it happen that they were allowed to gain the object of their contention I see no reason why the Temperance Committee might not justly raise a similar plea for Loyal Temperance Legions, and the Educational Department of the Foreign Board put in another plea with reference to its study classes, etc., etc. What is fair for one is likewise fair for all and if exceptions are made in any instance they cannot justly be denied in others. I believe, therefore, that should the decision be rendered which the ladies desire, an opening would be made toward completely thwarting the purpose which the Assembly has in view and I am on that account strongly opposed to such action.

For these three reasons, then; first, because the Assembly of 1909 clearly states that such is in accordance with its will; second, because the Assemblies of 1907 and 1908 seem to be of the same mind; and third, because the whole purpose of the Assembly in unifying the work for young people seems imperilled if the opposite stand be taken, I would respectfully urge the Executive Commission that it render a decision including Westminster Guilds, Mission Bands, and such other auxiliary societies of the Women's Boards as may be found among the youth of the Church, within the scope of the phrase "Young People." I furthermore urge that the secretaries who promote such societies be admonished to consider themselves among those told to work for that unification of young people's work which the Assembly desires.

How do you like this?

In conclusion let me say that should the members of the Executive Commission agree with me in rendering the decision above urged, such action would not mean that the work which the ladies are now doing would be roughly transferred at the present time to another agency and thus badly disturbed and probably injured. It is the purpose of the Assembly, as I understand it, that all agencies now working among young people shall be unified, not by immediate transfer of their work, but rather by a gradual process covering several years, during which period they will have the opportunity to grow together and time to conserve every valuable feature of each. For the present, therefore, the relation of the Women's Boards to the auxiliary societies will not be largely changed, no matter what the decision of the Commission may be. Provided the decision is as I have indicated, however, the way would then be clear whereby progress could be started and plans laid for eventual unification of their work along with that of the other Boards.

ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION AS TO THE UNIFICATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK.

The Executive Commission in session at Spring Lake, N.J. August 24th, and 25th, 1909, after hearing Mrs. Bennett, President of the Woman's Board of Home Missions, Miss Petrie, Secretary of the Young People's Department of the same Board, the Rev. John Dixon, D.D., and Mr. J. E. McAfee, Associate Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions, Mrs. Halsey Wood, representing the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Rev. A. W. Halsey, D.D., Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, and the Rev. Alexander Henry, D.D., Secretary of the Board of Publication and S.S. Work, all as representatives of a Conference of the Secretaries of the above named Boards, held in New York City, June 25th, 1909, to discuss the question of the proper interpretation of the action of the General Assembly as set forth in Resolutions Nos. 19 and 20 of the reportof the Committee on Administrative Agencies (Minutes, 1909, p. 238) which the said Conference desired the Commission to interpret, resolved to make answer to the question involved as follows:-

The question propounded is fully and clearly set forth in the following quotation in a paper submitted by one of the parties to the Conference as follows:-

"During the discussion one of the ladies present asked for a ruling on the inquiry 'Does the term 'Young People' include auxiliary societies distinctly organized by the Woman's Boards of Home and Foreign Missions for a specified purpose, such as Bands, Young Women's Societies, Westminster Guilds, etc., or are such organizations excluded from the classes is is meant to describe?' The import of the question apparently is this: Shall workers among young people in the Women's Boards be considered as among those asked by the last General Assembly to cooperate in unifying the Church's Agencies for dealing with her Young People's Societies, and shall the unifying agency which the Assembly desires eventually to secure, have jurisdiction over the Societies promoted and auxiliary to the Women's Boards, such as Mission Bands, Westminster Guilds, etc."

The Executive Commission is quite clear that its answer to this question should be an affirmative one. It was the fact that so many different agencies without our own Church, as well as other Agencies from outside, were engaged in efforts to organize and instruct the young people of our churches that led to the effort to unify these efforts as far as they are subject to the jurisdiction of the General Assembly, and among these Agencies specified in a Report to the General Assembly are mentioned those of "The Women's Boards of Home and Foreign Missions" and of "other Boards and Synodical Sustentation Committees." It was with reference to all these different agencies that the General Assembly enacted Resolution 19, which is as follows:-

"RESOLVED,19. That the Assembly unify its educational work among the children and youth by committing it for general supervision to the Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work, to which the Assembly has already committed it in part, and that it is hereby so committed."

In addition to this affirmation the Executive Commission deems it proper to declare that it was not the intention of the Assembly in assigning "supervision" of all its educational work to the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work to authorize its controlling the operation of changing the organizations now carried on under the direction of other Boards, but that the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, through its Department of Young People's Work, should take cognizance of all educational work among our young people, present to the Assembly in its annual report a general view of the work, and promote effective cooperation with these various agencies with a view to securing the highest degree of harmony possible.

Action of the Executive
Commission as to
Dept of Y.P.'s Work.

Furthermore, while the action of the Assembly leaves all its existing agencies to carry on their work as they may have been doing, it does in clear terms lay upon them all the duty of such cooperation as may reduce the evils that have been complained of, and to seek by conference with one another methods that shall simplify and co-ordinate these forms of education and the training of our young people, so that a true unification may be ultimately attained.

Attest
Wm H. Roberts
Secretary

#2.

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Action of the Executive Commission as to Supervision of Y. P.'s Work.

Attest
Wm H. Roberts
Secretary

A PLAN OF WORK OF OUR BOARDS IN THE INTEREST OF THE YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH.

The Young People's Department of the two Boards shall maintain its unity, as expressing the joint effort of the Boards to develop the life and service of the youth of our Church in the interest of home missions. The divisions of labor hereinafter proposed are only for clearness and simplicity of administration.

1. The Board of Home Missions shall secure a young man who shall be known as Educational Secretary. He shall have charge of all work in connection with the presentation and development of home missions in Sunday schools and educational institutions, etc.

The Woman's Board shall have a Young People's Secretary who shall have charge of all work in connection with the presentation and development of home missions in the young people's societies.

2. Both officers shall present the work of both the Board and the Woman's Board, each in his or her particular field. 2.

3. Contributions for special objects shall be applied as designated, but contributions for the General Fund from Sunday schools shall go to the Assembly's Board, and from young people's organizations to the Woman's Board.

4. There shall be no program for Sunday schools issued by the Woman's Board after 1910.

5. The salaries and expenses of the Secretaries shall be borne by the Boards separately.

6. The adjustment of funds shall go into effect April 1st, 1911.

Office Conference
Jan 10. 1910

The Joint Executive Committee have before them a resolution looking towards the extension of the Budget by including the Young People's Societies and Sunday Schools. No action has as yet been taken awaiting suggestions from the various Women's Boards.

The purpose of the proposition is to include the contributions of Young People's Societies and Sunday Schools with that of the congregation in the Budget. It is intended solely to unify as far as possible the responsibility of the local church for missionary offerings. It is not intended to lessen the interest of the Women's Boards in these organizations nor to interfere either with their supervision of the methods by which the money may be raised or the use to which the money may be put by Young People or Sunday School after it is raised. The expected result of this unification would be to locate upon the pastor and elders their responsibility for securing the whole Budget, to give full credit to organizations as well as to the congregation proper, and to prevent the increase of gifts by such organizations being made at the expense of the congregation and the injury of the Budget.

for kuk B—

Extract from the Minutes of the Joint Executive Committee of the Boards and the Executive Commission.

Meeting of the Joint Executive Committee of the Boards and the Executive Commission.

Present: Revs. J. F. Carson and Wm. F. Foulkes, representing the Executive Commission; Revs. John Dixon and Stanley White, in the absence of Rev. A.W. Halsey; Rev. Robert Mackenzie, representing the Boards, and Rev. W. H. Hubbard, the Secretary.

Opened with prayer by Dr. Mackenzie.

1. Motion was made that the Joint Executive Committee recommend to all the Boards hitherto sending out programs and taking collections in Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies that this procedure be modified next year, to be brought into complete harmony with the budget scheme.

2. The Secretary is authorized to send notice to the several Boards taking collections in Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies that the Joint Executive Committee has the above resolution upon the docket for further consideration.

3. It was voted that inasmuch as General Assembly has instructed certain Boards to observe certain days in which to solicit contributions from Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies, that it is understood by this Committee that the Boards should observe these days this year.

Some reply by
End Oct— 25 I think
2

This is Dr. J's way of presenting and was to go to our Bd today - Mch 14-'12

March 12-1912

Concerning the Organization and Work of the Young People's Department of the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work and its relation to the Young People's Department of the Board of Home Missions, the Judgment of the Board is expressed as follows:-

1. We desire to recognize the general demand in our Church for simplification and unification in the methods of approach to the young people in the interest of missions. So many have been the lines of such approach, and so numerous the appeals for the interest and offerings of the young people in the cause of missions, that there has grown up a strong desire for a greater unity, which finds expression in the Reports of the Committee on Religious Education, and in the organization of the Young People's Department of the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school work.

2. We are also of the opinion that the best interests of the life and work of the Church, and the success of the budget plan require that each Board shall continue to have freest and fullest educational access to the Church, and that the present direct relations with synods, presbyteries and local churches on the part of the Boards should not suffer any interruption or diversion.

3. Inasmuch as after fullest endeavors to co-operate with the Young People's Department of the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work the plan has been found to limit the access of our Board to the young people of the Church, and to limit its effective educational propaganda, and also to interrupt the relations of our Young People's Department with the young people of the synods, presbyteries and local churches, we are of the opinion that a conference of the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions, and of the

Board for Freedmen with the Young People's Department of the Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work should be called at an early convenient date. We are so sure that all the parties concerned have the one interest, and desire only the complete education of our young people in missions, that we are persuaded that in such a conference a way will be found for securing the unity manifestly desired by the Church without sacrificing anything considered important by any Board. Co-ordination of lines of effort and co-operation in making them ~~effect~~ efficient we believe will be developed in such a conference.

March 14, 1912

ACTION OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

AT SPECIAL MEETING, MARCH 11, 1912

1. It is the judgment of the Board that it is indispensable to the best interests of the life and work of the Church and to the success of the Budget Plan that each Board should have the freest and fullest access to the Church, and that it would be injurious and intolerable to limit the right or duty of each Board, working harmoniously with all the other Boards, to supply the Church with the fullest information about its work, to carry on the most effective educational propaganda in its power, and to maintain direct relations with the synods, presbyteries and local churches.

2. In the matter of its Educational and Sunday-School Departments, dealing with mission study classes among young and old and with Missions in the Sunday Schools, the Board is convinced, for the reasons set~~s~~ forth in its action of April 20th, 1908m and in the statement made in behalf of the Board to the Committee on Administrative Agencies (namely, the letter addressed to Dr. Stewart in behalf of the Board, dated April 11, 1908 and Dr. Sailer's statement of approximately the same date), that, in the interest of the Church, the young people, and the educational program of the Committee on Religious Education, the work of missionary education should be left in a distinctly missionary department, as recognized in the report of the Committee on Religious Education to the last General Assembly; this Department to be a recognized part of the whole work of religious education, and to remain as at present in New York, in immediate connection with and under the direction of the Missionary Boards.

3. The Department of Missionary Education should have charge of the missionary section and elements in any curriculum of religious education agreed upon, and in order to secure unity of plan and effort, and adjust the balance and proportion of courses and to give the whole project the impulse and inspiration of the missionary spirit, the Board believes that it would be desirable that the Secretaries of the Department of Missionary Education and the Secretaries of the Department of Religious Education of the Board of Publication should confer upon the plan of the whole work, leaving it to the Department of Missionary Education to supervise and conduct the missionary work, the rest of the work to be supervised and conducted by the Department of Religious Education of the Board of Publication.

4. In the judgment of the Board, the Department of Missionary Education should be composed of the Sunday School Department and the Educational Department of the Foreign Board, and the corresponding Departments of the Board of Home Missions, together with any mission study work of the Board of Freedmen. In relation to the Department of Religious Education, and in all campaign and general work among the churches, the Department of Missionary Education should be a unit, but the actual work of preparing courses of study and of guiding classes in each subject, should be cared for by the respective agencies involved, and these agencies shall retain their present Board relationships. To secure complete harmony and unity of action, the various agents should have regular conferences, to be attended also by the Secretary of the Home Department of the Board of Foreign Missions and by the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions. Each Board should meet the expense of its own agents, with the understanding that all common expenses will be equitably divided among the Boards concerned.

J. F.

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
D. STUART DODGE, D. D., PRESIDENT
CHARLES L. THOMPSON, D. D., SECRETARY
HARVEY C. OLIN, TREASURER

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT
M. JOSEPHINE PETRIE, SECRETARY
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

WOMAN'S BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
MRS. F. S. BENNETT, PRESIDENT
MISS JULIA FRASER, SECRETARY
MRS. M. J. GILDERSLEEVE, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY
MISS DORA M. FISH, ACTING TREASURER

March 16, 1912.

My dear Mrs. Bennett:-

Your letter is just here and I hasten to straighten out this buminess in your mind, as I want you should know all about it, although really I have felt that it was unwise to send you so much. I did it at Miss Fraser's request after asking her to ask you the other day if you had that communication in regard to the presbyterial union which Mr. Gelston sent to me and I brought up at our conference. From your note, I should think it must be in your possession. It was in regard to this organization, and touched our work in the matter of the treasury business, embracing in his plans young women's societies, Guilds, etc. I sent my own personal letter in regard to the matter before handing it over to you and told him it was altogether too financial for an "educational" organization plan, and he thanked me very much for the criticism and said it would be revised; but I have never seen the revision, nor do I know that it was replied to in any other way. No one here seems to recall it further than Mrs. Gildersleeve remembers having read it over.

And now as to present conditions. I will review this matter of the committee so that you may know the steps which have led up to the present request for a general conference.

First there happened to come to Mr. Millikin's notice the enclosed leaflet. I learned of the plan when out in Wisconsin last fall through some of the ministers, and had reported it here, but no one seemed to know anything about it. Then Mr. Millikin found the leaflet, and about the same time he and I united in asking Mr. Gelston for the use of his new C. E. list for the sending out of study announcements. Mr. Gelston replied that he was unwilling to do this but would print free of cost announcements covering all our study work if we would provide the material, and would have the envelopes addressed and sent from his office, if we would divide the cost of mailing and the work. Mr. Millikin was very indignant and told me he would not answer the letter but would bring the matter up to his Board. I had not such a deep feeling about it, and wrote Mr. Gelston at once that we had tried that scheme before and that it was such an absolute failure I would really prefer personally to go on with my own mailing list, ~~and~~ he took this from me without any unpleasantness. Mr. Millikin felt that this was a decided unwillingness on the part of the Y.P.Dept. of the Bd. of Pub. to co-operate with us, and so presented the matter to the committee of their Board. It was in turn taken to their Board meeting and considered too serious a matter to decide with all the other work of that particular day, so was referred back to a committee to draft some sort of a statement and present at a special called meeting of the Foreign Board. This special meeting was held last Monday afternoon, and they immediately asked for a conference with our officers before our committee meeting which was planned for Tuesday afternoon.

The consolidation of the two committees of presbytery (Young People and Sunday Schools) touches the Foreign Board more than it does ours, and they say that the new budget plan which aims to do away with the Foreign Missions committee, and this scheme of Mr. Gelston's, they will be entirely shut out. I brought up the general attitude of the Philadelphia Board, and the way in which their methods effect our study classes and the contributions from our young people's societies, (the matter of their February appeal to young people for the support of the Young People's Department) at the joint conference on our floor, and the officers said they would bring the matter to the Board meeting that very day. This Board decided to appoint a committee consisting of three. Mr. Millikin tells me the Foreign Board members have been studying the whole matter very seriously and exhaustively, and that it was hard for some of them to come to the statement of which I sent you a copy; but they have done it most unanimously, and the officers were asked to meet with our officers Tuesday morning. Mr. Millikin, Mr. Trull and I were there in addition to Drs. White, Speer, Halsey, Thompson, Dixon and Mr. McAfee. Our officers, I must say, were not very pleasant over this paper from the Foreign Board and decided to do nothing until the meeting of their committee in the afternoon, and this committee meeting was to me the hardest of all, for Dr. Carlisle knew absolutely nothing of any of our work for young people, and could not see that anything we reported would in any way effect any of our work. Dr. Work at last moved that Dr. Thompson make a statement which should be presented to them before the meeting of the Board on Thursday. I sent you a copy of this digest of Dr. Thompson's, but have not heard what happened at that Board meeting. I suppose Dr. Thompson will send his paper on to the Foreign Board but already Dr. White, who was secretary of our meeting that day, has sent notices, as I understand, to the Bd. of Pub. and the committee on religious education. So far am I clear?

Now as to your questions. I. The paper of the Foreign Board refers not only to Sunday School and mission study classes, but to every phase of missionary education among young people's organizations. I feel myself that it is not perfectly clear in this, but that is the intention.

2. (In regard to paragraph 4 and the "department of missionary education"): In the discussion it was brought out that the Foreign Board felt that the work of the general young people's department should be something in the nature of a faculty so far as the leaders are concerned, and that the missionary part should belong to the missionary Boards, and that a council meeting should be held at least once a month, possibly alternating between New York and Philadelphia if the General's Assembly's department is continued in Philadelphia; but that the head of the department should not be the one to present missionary work as well as the work of all of the other Boards of the church, it being conceded by all that such leadership is not possible, but should be delegated to specialists along this specific line..

3. Dr. Halsey I believe is the secretary of the Home Department of the Foreign Board. You know we have no one to correspond with him only as Dr. Thompson may be the one to hold that position. The committee on religious education is the

committee of General Assembly. The Young People's Department of the Bd. of Pub. is now called the Department of Religious Education you know.

Yes, March twenty-fifth is Spring Conference day, and I did not know that it is the definite date for this general conference. It was a date suggested in order that Dr. White might find out and let the rest of us know. I wish there were some one here in our Woman's Board who attended the original conferences, but there has been nothing which could in any way weaken the Woman's Board side of this work, else I certainly should have called for a conference or committee meeting of some kind or other; but everything is so hazy and so entirely connected with the organization in presbytery - that is, the consolidation of these two committees that I had felt the Woman's Board was not in it to this extent.

Another thing brought out in the conferences, but which I found out more of later, is that Mr. Millikin felt a possibility and feasibility in uniting all the study work of the two Boards. In fact, Mr. Speer brought this out in the conference, stating that Mr. Millikin and other of their leaders taught general methods which included Home and Foreign. He did not think the one person could present the helps, but thought it might be done under one head, or with a representative of the Home and Foreign Boards uniting their forces, using the same mailing list, etc., etc. But it would have to include, if we unite, the women's societies as ? well as young people and young women, for the Foreign Board Educational Department covers all of these organizations. Personally I believe in the theory, and in these days of "unification", and all such doings, it would present a splendid front to the great General Assembly of which they all seem to so stand in awe. But I do not know that it is feasible. It was because of this in their minds that they spoke of the division of "all common expenses".

If you could send over your papers some day I will take good care of them, and you may have some that I have not which would be valuable in any further conferences. Of course I reported all of this to Miss Fraser, and she has read the papers.

You do know, too, that they are all so busy over their own special lines of work that this must seem an extra burden if I urge time for conferences, and really we are not where we can do very much unless one is thoroughly familiar with the work of this department and the early plans for adjustment with the Philadelphia Board.

My, what a document! I hope it will not give you nervous prostration, and that it is fairly clear. I should like to have the enclosed leaflet returned, please, as it is the only copy I have.

With much love and thanks for your interest, which I felt sure of,

Sincerely,
Josephine Petrie.

Enclosure.

Will add a leaflet wh- came this week.

WOMAN'S BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
156 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y.

MISS JULIA FRASER, SECRETARY
MRS. M. J. GILDERSLEEVE, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY
MRS. DWIGHT E. POTTER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MISS M. JOSEPHINE PETRIE, YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECRETARY

MRS. F. S. BENNETT, PRESIDENT
MISS DORA M. FISH, TREASURER

MISS THEODORA FINKS, EDITOR HOME MISSION MONTHLY
M. C. ALLABEN, A. B. SUP'T OF SCHOOLS
MRS. SUSAN L. STORER. SEC. FREEDMEN'S DEPT.
818 BESSEMER BUILDING, PITTSBURGH, PA.

November 4th, 1912.

Dear Mrs. Bennett:-

It seems to me that a definite understanding relative to Young People's work should be determined before we can go very much further in our Foreigners Policy, for example, the women everywhere are encouraging the Young People to contribute to the Foreigners Work, the money is returned often in bulk, for local distribution; we then are obliged to give from our General Fund half the amount received to balance accounts with the Board of Home Missions. Personally, I would very much rather have a clearly defined policy, such as the Board of Foreign Missions has, than the one that passed the Joint Office Conference on June 2nd, 1910, a copy of which I am enclosing to you. I think this is most important.

Return to Mrs Petrie Beginnings of SS and Y. P. work. Excerpts from Gen. Assembly Minutes

A paper approved by the Joint Conference of the officers of the Home Board and the Woman's Board and respectfully submitted to these two Boards.

Box 20

Pr. file

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March 30, 1915

Whereas, there is confusion attending the prosecution of missionary interests in Young People's Societies and Sunday Schools, owing to the several policies followed by the Mission Boards of the church,

IT IS RECOMMENDED

First: That the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Board of Home Missions adopt the policy followed by the Board of Foreign Missions and the six Women's Boards of Foreign Missions, whereby the Board of Home Missions shall become responsible for the education of Sunday Schools along the line of Home Missions, and shall solicit and receive gifts from said Sunday Schools for the furtherance of its work as a Board, and the Woman's Board of Home Missions shall become responsible for the education of Young People's Societies, - including Senior, Junior and Intermediate Christian Endeavor organizations, - along the line of Home Missions, and shall solicit and receive gifts from said Young People's organizations for the furtherance of its work as a Board.

Second: THAT whereas, it has been the custom to divide equally between the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Board of Home Missions all gifts from Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies (where said societies have been composed of young men and women), and by such arrangement Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies have been under the care of a Joint Young People's Department, and a large interest worked up on the part of both Sunday Schools and Young People in the work of the Woman's Board of Home Missions and of the Board of Home Missions, it is recommended that

(1) Funds from Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies shall no longer be divided between the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's

Board of Home Missions,

(2) Each Board shall work out the details of administration necessary for the fulfillment of its responsibility for the carrying out of the policy outlined in the first recommendation.

Third: THAT a joint preliminary announcement be prepared and sent to officials in synods, presbyteries, synodical and presbyterial societies.

Fourth: THAT, in view of the fact that a large interest in scholarships under the Woman's Board has been aroused during the past years, whereby annual pledges to the extent of about $16,000. have been secured from Sunday Schools,

(1) A list of said scholarship pledges be given the Board of Home Missions in order that the new policy may be explained and an endeavor made to enlist the interest of said Sunday Schools in the work committed to the Board of Home Missions; and that the Woman's Board communicate likewise with the Sunday Schools in question explaining the new policy and that they will be approached by the Board of Home Missions for a change of Home Mission objects:

(2) This recommendation be understood to cover present pledges only:

(3) Future requests from Sunday Schools for home mission objects be referred to the Board of Home Missions.

Fifth: THAT if after careful explanation and solicitation on the part of the Board of Home Missions a Sunday School shall insist upon continuing its interest in a scholarship of several years' standing, it shall not be considered a breach of policy if the Woman's Board shall accept such scholarship money, it being conceded that any organization has the final right to act concening the distribution of its gifts.

Sixth: THAT the facts contained in Paragraphs fourth and fifth relating to Sunday Schools apply in like manner to Young People's Societies:- i.e. organizations composed of boys and girls, and young men and women, - with reference to the Woman's Board.

Seventh: THAT the Board of Home Missions ask the General Assembly for the offerings from Sunday Schools on Thanksgiving Sunday and the Sunday nearest Washington's Birthday.

Eighth: THAT the Board of Home Missions suggest to the Freedmen's Board that they fall in line with the Board of Home and Foreign Missions in the matter of Sunday School gifts.

Ninth: THAT these recommendations shall be considered as effective from April 1st, 1915.

Permanent

ACTIONS BY THE WOMAN'S BOARDS OF HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE JOINT CONFERENCE

Chicago, November, 1915.

SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIONS

Sent out from General Council, January, 1917.

(Earlier Actions Reported to Constituency, March 1916.)

Young People's Work.

Recommend that the suggested age of admission to Westminster Guild Chapters shall be from 18-30 years and strongly recommend that the term of membership shall not exceed ten years.

Recommend that Westminster Guild Chapters and Circles be allowed to give as an "extra" to the work for Freedmen, provided it is understood that such gift is optional and not required of any Chapter or Circle. The largest support should always be given to the work assigned by the Woman's Boards of Home and Foreign Missions. No Chapter or Circle should assume any "extra" until the shares in regular work have beem pledged and paid.

(The words, "and paid", have been added to the original recommendation.)

In accordance with the deliverance of General Assembly on cultivation of the Sunday School as a responsibility of the general Boards of Home and Foreign Missions, all gifts from the Sunday Schools should go to the Treasurers of these Boards. Hence, if any Mission Band is organized in the Sunday School and holds no meetings except as a Sunday School Class, it is auxiliary to the General Boards. When a Mission Band is organized in the Sunday School composed either of members of a class or members from different classes and holds regular missionary meetings at which missionary offerings are received outside of the Sunday School session, it is auxiliary to the Woman's Boards. The responsibility for carrying out this policy in loyalty to our General Assembly rests upon the officers and members of the Woman's Boards of Home and Foreign Missions in cooperation with Synodical and Presbyterial Officers.

Educational

Standard for Missionary Education in the Woman's Boards of Missions of the Presbyterian Church.

The scope of missionary education in a local church embraces all methods now in general use, the mission study class, the lecture course, the program meeting, the reading circle, the use of missionary libraries, magazines, charts and pictures, the missionary address and missionary demonstrations. It should also include a graded system of missionary education for the young people, the promotion of giving and the development and use of service.

a. The Study Class

A small group of persons who meet frequently, preferably once a week, for the systematic study, under a leader, of some one of the mission fields or problems. The course should include from six to ten sessions. (Four session courses are not recommended for the local class using the six or eight chapter books, but for field secretaries and intended to demonstrate in a brief space of time practical mission study methods.)

For the best work the class should number from ten to twenty members. Its method is not the lecture or program method, but informal discussions. Each member owns a text-book, prepares an assigned lesson, and quite freely and informally participates in the discussions of the class hour. The leader plans the course, outlines the assignments, endeavors to stimulate discussion and to guide it to conclusions of value and always seeks to call forth self-expression on the part of the members of the group. Leaders should study methods of teaching carefully, and constantly endeavor to improve the standard of work done.

This method of missionary education is adaptable to all grades of students, and leaders should not be discouraged or deterred from attempting the work because of the high standard set.

b. The Lecture Course

The lecture course is closely allied to the study class. It reaches a much larger group, and persons unwilling to enter a small group in which they will have to take part will attend a lecture course in which they will not be called upon to participate. This method should not be considered a substitute for the mission study class.

c. The Program Meeting

The program meeting provides for the presentation by one or more persons of topics centered about a particular mission field or problem. It is not a substitute for the mission study class, as the mission study class is not a substitute for the program meeting. The two are separate and should be kept distinct. The mission study class trains leaders and participants for the program meeting, and the program meeting finds a point of contact with the uninterested and thus furnishes members for the mission study class.

d. The Reading Circle

The reading circle may be a group of persons who agree to meet at stated intervals at which time some one of the number reads aloud a book on one of the mission fields or some interesting phase of the work. The reading may or may not be followed by informal discussion.

Or a group of persons may agree to read in their own homes some interesting missionary book and meet regularly to discuss informally what they have read.

Recommend that missionary education in the local church shall be promoted from headquarters through the Board Secretary who should maintain a personal touch with the leaders and organizers of mission study classes in Presbyterial and Synodical societies, and also by Synodical and Presbyterial Secretaries for Missionary Education in cooperation with the Board Secretary.

Recommend (a) That local mission study classes be reported by their leaders directly to the Boards through enrolment cards. That Board Secretaries send copies of these records, monthly if possible, to Synodical Secretaries who in turn will send copies to their Presbyterial Secretaries.

(b) That Presbyterial and Synodical Secretaries shall, in addition, secure records of classes which have not previously reported, and forward to the Boards.

Financial

All Boards shall ask for the same percentage of increase: the said increase to be based on regular gifts for the previous year from women's, young people's, young women's, and children's organizations. In reckoning this percentage of increase no account shall be made of gifts for extras, nor of specials, nor of legacies. A committee shall be appointed each year to consider the percentage of increase.

Recommend that where Presbyterial Normal study classes or courses are planned the Board be granted $5. for providing leaders for each session of the class and that for an interdenominational lecture course, $10. be granted for each session, and that entertainment be not required. Any change necessitated by local conditions shall be arranged by the respective Boards.

General Items

Recommend that the Boards acquiesce in the formation of joint societies when local conditions demand it. (Rewording of original recommendation.)

A joint society, Synodical, Presbyterial or local is one organized under one constitution which evenly presents the claims of Home and Foreign Missions, with one president and as many other officers as may be necessary for the presentation of the departments of work incident to relationship with the Woman's Board of Home Missions, the Woman's Department of the Freedmen's Board, and the Territorial Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.

Recommend that two forms of membership shall be recognized in local societies, general and contributing.
(a) General membership shall be established on any standard agreeable to the local organization.
(b) Contributing membership shall include all who regularly contribute to the Woman's Board of Home Missions, or the Territorial Woman's Board of Foreign Missions through the local organization. On the contributing membership shall be based apportionments or pledges.

Recommend that Synodical Societies that meet separate from Synod, cooperate with Home and Foreign Boards in arranging dates to accommodate Board speakers, such dates to be arranged the previous year.

Recommend that Synodical Presidents arrange consecutive meetings of Presbyterial Societies where it may be possible.

Recommend that the Boards unify their plans for the Extension Department presenting its work to the Synodical Societies and pushing the policies. That there may be no misunderstanding this definition was agreed upon:

> "The Woman's Board of Home Missions understands this action as referring to such extension work as is listed in 'Shut-in' or 'Home Department' and not to the work of organizing new societies."

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE WOMAN'S BOARDS OF HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS ON RECOMMENDATIONS PASSED BY GENERAL COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING, JANUARY 21-22, 1918

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROGRAM

(The following program for C. E. and Young People's organizations proposed by the Board of Publication and Sabbath School work met with the approval first of General Council and subsequently of the Boards. The C. E. and Young People's Societies attaining this program will be recognized as having automatically attained the Standard of Excellence for all Local Young People's Organizations recommended by General Council. The imprint on this program will be "Young People's Department of the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, in cooperation with the Woman's Board's of Missions of the Presbyterian Church, in the U. S. A.")

Presbyterian Young People's Society Program

A 100 Point Standard Covering Church Year 1918-1919, 1919-1920

		Points
I.	PROGRAM	
A.	Adoption of this "Presbyterian Young People's Society Program" as yearly goal.	5
B.	Adoption of an individual program formulated by each Committee as yearly goal.	5
II.	MEMBERSHIP	
A.	Ten per cent. net gain in active membership	5
B.	Ten per cent. net gain in associate membership	5
III.	MEETINGS	
A.	Regular weekly meetings averaging in attendance 60% of membership	4
B.	Regular committee meetings, and regular business meetings with officers and chairman reporting in writing	3
C.	Personal work and Christian service as a life work each presented at least twice a year in Society meetings	3
IV.	CHURCH	
A.	Attendance upon the church services and prayer metings, averaging throughout the year 50% of membership	5
B.	Young people brought into the church equivalent to 10% of society membership	5
V.	PERSONAL DEVOTIONS	
A.	The claims of regular individual Bible Study, meditation and prayer each day presented at least twice a year	5
B.	At least ten per cent. of the Society members Comrades of the Quiet Hour	5
VI.	DENOMINATION	
A.	At least four especially prepared meetings or one study on some phase of Presbyterianism	4
B.	A society delegation in attendance upon a summer or winter conference or a Presbyterial or Synodical gathering for young people	4
C.	"Young People's Day" observed by a special young people's service	2

VII. EDUCATION

		Points
A.	Ten per cent. of active members enrolled in the Presbyterian Young People's Leadership course	4
B.	Two or more Study Classes in the Society each year; at least one a Mission Study Class	4
C.	Ten minutes or more of each regular meeting devoted to Religious Education	2
D.	(Alternative) Ten minutes or more of each regular meeting devoted to information of a religious or denominational character	2

VIII. MISSIONS

A.	Ten or more meetings a year of missionary interest	5
B.	Acceptance of denominational apportionment for Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and Missions for Freedmen, and pledges paid in full by March 10	5

IX. GIVING

A.	Stewardship, Jesus' standard of giving, presented at least twice a year	2
B.	At least ten per cent. of the active members tithers or stewards	2
C.	Adoption of a financial budget for society expenses and for benevolences	3
D.	Pledge made to Young People's Work and paid by the end of February	3

IX. GIVING (Alternative)

A.	Stewardship, Jesus' standard of giving, presented at least twice a year, and a minimum of ten per cent. of active members tithers or stewards	4
B.	Adoption of a financial budget for society expenses and for benevolences	3
C.	Pledge made to Young People's Work and paid by the end of February	3

X. SERVICE

A.	Some definite service rendered the local church by the Society alone or in cooperation with other organizations	4
B.	Some ministry or helpfulness rendered to needy in community or assistance given in conducting of religious services in public institutions	3
C.	Maintain a Junior Committee which shall organize and conduct a Junior Society or render such help to existing society as may be practicable	3

EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

1. The name of the department shall be "The Department for Associate Members".
2. The Secretary in the department shall be called "The Secretary ~~of~~ for ~~the Department for~~ Associate Members", and of synodical, presbyterial and auxiliary societies, "The Secretary for Associate Members".
3. Any woman of the congregation or of the community not actively connected with the woman's auxiliary society, who cannot attend the regular meetings of the society, but will read the literature provided for her, may become an Associate Member of the society.

Rev.________________

Stated Clerk of Presbytery.

My dear Brother:

In accordance with the direction of the last General Assembly that the Sunday School Departments of the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions and the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work should all work in closer relations, we desire to present to your Presbytery the following communication for their consideration and action.

> (A) We recommend a conference of the three Presbyterial Committees above named to consider how unitedly the missionary interests of the three Boards may be presented to the Sunday Schools of the Presbytery.
>
> (B) To this end we urge the appointment of three representatives, one from each of the Presbyterial Committees above named--the best fitted persons because of training, experience and interest--to be charged with the responsibility of developing missions in the Sunday School. These men should be in direct communication with the three Boards, and in vital relation with the three Presbyterial Committees, reporting to each of these committees respectively.

Representatives of the Home and Foreign Boards and of the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work met recently and outlined co-operation in Sunday School work as follows:

1. By a joint presentation of the Sunday School missionary work of the three Boards at meetings of the General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery.
2. By co-operation of Committees of Synod and Presbytery. At the coming meetings of Presbytery and Synod these Committees should have a joint meeting in order to perfect plans for an adequate presentation of the various phases of the work as carried on by the Boards which they represent.
3. By Sunday School Institutes or Conferences, conducted in the interests of the three Boards.
4. By a presentation of plans for the systematic study of missions in the Sunday School, and the encouragement of all our schools to adopt such plans as a part of their Sunday School work.

5. By the presentation of literature on systematic beneficience for use in Sunday Schools, to be prepared under the auspices of the three Boards and sent to pastors and superintendents with our joint approval.

6. By presenting missionary illustrations in the Westminster Teacher and other Sunday School publications in connection with the study of the International Sunday School Lessons.

7. Wherever it is deemed advisable, imprint editions of missionary books will also be published. In this and other ways the three Boards named hope to unify and render more efficient the work of their various Boards in connection with Sunday Schools.

Enclosed are some recommendations which we would submit for the consideration and action of those persons whose appointment is requested in Paragraph B.

Yours faithfully,

ENC.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPRESENTATIVES

FROM THE PRESBYTERIAL COMMITTEES OF THE BOARDS OF HOME AND OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND SABBATH SCHOOL WORK TO ADVANCE MISSIONS IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

To the Representatives of the Three Committees:-

Gentlemen:-

The Secretaries of the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions and of The Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work having recently met in joint conference, present the following recommentations for your consideration and action:-

1. The Appointment of Representatives. The Presbyterial Committees of Home and Foreign Missions and of the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work should each appoint one member to work unitedly in developing Missions, Home Foreign and Sabbath School in the Sunday Schools of the Presbytery.

2. Relation to Presbyterial Committees and to the Three Boards. Each representative should be in direct communication with the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions and the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, from which communications will be sent for the developing of Missions in the Sunday Schools of the Presbytery.

3. Apportionment of Responsibility. The schools of the Presbytery should be apportioned among the three representatives, so that each will be responsible for the developing of missionary interests in a definite number of schools.

4. Duties of Representatives.
   1. In relation to the local school.
      (a) Securing Missionary Committee in the local Sunday School. The representatives should secure the appointment of a Missionary Committee in every school of the Presbytery with which vital relations should be established. This local committee should be represented by its Chairman or otherwise on the Missionary Committee of the Church.

      (b) Presenting for Adoption by each Sunday School a Definite Missionary Policy. There should be presented to each Sunday School a comprehensive Missionary Policy embracing,-
         Systematic graded education
         Definite daily prayer
         Proportionate and systematic giving
         An effort to secure missionary recruits

      (c) Observance of Special Days. Attention of all the Sunday Schools of Presbytery should be called to the "Special Days", whose observance is recommended by the General Assembly as follows:
         Christmas and Easter for Foreign Missions
         Sundays nearest Thanksgiving and Washington's Birthday for Home Missions
         Children's Day and Rally Day for Sabbath School Missions
         (The Boards furnish on application special programs for these occasions free of charge).

Duties of Representatives.

2. PRESBYTERIALLY.

(a) The representatives of the three Committees should arrange for the joint presentation of the missionary work of the three Boards at regular meetings of Presbytery. This should include an Institute or conference hour when thorough consideration should be given to the best methods of missionary education in the Sunday School as well as to the other points of the Missionary Policy outlined under Section 4, 1 (b). Schools that have adopted the Missionary Policy wholly or in part should be encouraged to send representatives to Presbytery to take part in the conference above suggested, stating what their respective schools have accomplished. This would encourage other schools to adopt so much of the Policy as may be feasible.

The abundant graded missionary material for missionary education, now available, should be secured from the Boards and displayed at Presbytery. Complete sample supplies will be sent on sale on application to the Boards.

(b) Determined effort should be made at the earliest possible moment to secure in each Presbytery a few schools that will at once adopt so much of the Missionary Policy as may be feasible, and carry on for a stated period such methods of missionary education as may be deemed best suited to the local needs. Such schools with the help and suggestions of the Presbyterial representative, who has them in his district will thus be carrying on as it were laboratory work and thus become an object lesson to the other schools of the Presbytery as to what can be done along missionary lines.

(c) Plans should also be made for holding Sunday School Missionary Institutes or conferences throughout the Presbytery at strategic centers along the lines above indicated and in the interests of the three Boards. It is further recommended that close relations be established with the local County and State Sunday School Associations in the interests of Missions in the Sunday School.

5. REPORTS. Regular written semi-annual reports should be submitted to the three Committees of Presbytery by their respective representatives, both of the individual and of the joint work accomplished by the representatives. These reports should be included in the reports made to Presbytery by the Chairmen of the Home Mission, Foreign Mission and Sabbath School Committees respectively.

6. FINANCES. An adequate appropriation should be made by Presbytery for the expenses connected with the carrying out of the work of the representatives of the three Committees.

The action taken by the representatives of the Home Mission, Foreign Mission and Sabbath School Committees of Presbytery upon the above recommendations from the three Boards concerned, should be communicated to at the earliest possible moment.

(Signed) Rev. Alexander Henry, D.D., Board of Pub. & S. S. Work.
Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pa.
Miss Josephine Petrie, Board of Home Missions,
156 - 5th Av., New York.
Rev. George H. Trull, Board of Foreign Missions,
156 - 5th Av., New York.

To Dr. Thompson. Memo. for Joint Conference.

et-al.

Your Young People's Department has been embarrassed for several years in the matter of answers to appeals from Sunday Schools for small definite "Objects" for gifts. I have replied by offering shares in our various forms of service because very few Sunday Schools are willing or able to assume even half the salary of a missionary or mission teacher. This correspondence [redacted] especially hard in a number of the self-supporting synods, the Foreign Board assigning objects at from $10. to $25. "Ten dollars provides a scholarship for a child and twenty-five will support a Bible woman", so I am informed. The Freedmen's Board gives out scholarships at $25.

My request is for an understanding with the officers of both the Board and the Woman's Board and full co-operation in this matter. The two special programs are not meeting our need, and Sunday School contributions are falling off.

Another reason for our decreased offerings from Sunday Schools is the following: Sunday School classes are converted into Mission Bands - more of them every year. A report received yesterday is of one Sunday School in Topeka where ten classes have recently been organized into Mission Bands and send their money as from Bands rather than from Sunday Schools in order to avoid the self-support call, which they feel is duly met with other contributions from the school. A report comes from Michigan where in order to avoid similar appeals Sunday School classes are being organized into Westminster Guild Circles.

May your Young People's Department publish a small illustrated leaflet for Sunday Schools under the title "What the Sunday Schools can do for Home Missions" (or something meaning that) and include in this salaries of missionaries, mission teachers, hospitals and other medical work, community work, scholarships, and equipment which is included in the budget?

prepared by Dr Dixon —
recd – Dec. 9, 191
2.7.

Action of the General Assembly concerning Young People's Work.

Minutes 1906, page 108. Recommendation 12.

Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work authorised to erect a new Department on Young People's work. New organisations of young people not to be introduced where existing organisations are doing the work in a satisfactory manner.

page 184.

The new department directed to push vigorously all those matters by previous Assemblies committed to the Permanent Committee on Young People's Societies together with such new matters and methodses in its judgment would tend to develop and strengthen the work of these Societies.

Minutes 1907, page 195.

Committee on Administrative Agencies to present some plan for a central bureau for the Christian nurture of the young. In view of the action of the General Assembly in placing Young People's work under the Board of Publication, the Standing Committee on Young People's Work discontinued.

Minutes 1908, page 157.

Committee on Administrative Agencies continued.

Minutes 1909, page 144.

Resolutions 9 and 10.

First Sunday in February named as Young People's day and an offering to be taken.
Summer Conferences to be conducted by Department of Young People's Work, Board of Publication.

page 230.

Resume by Committee on Administrative Agencies.

page 239.

Resolution 25.

Boards of Home and Foreign Missions instructed to enter into relations with Board of Sunday School and Young People's Work ***** as shall in every way contribute toward effecting the Assembly's purpose of unifying the agencies of our church that are dealing with the young.

Minutes 1910, page 156.

Young People's day and offering First Sunday in February.

Resume Minutes 1911, pages 105 and 106.

Department known as "Department of Religious Education and Young People's Work"
Collection ordered and Special day First Sunday in February.

Resolution 12.

(September, 1911)

Extract from the Minutes of the Joint Executive Committee of the Boards and the Executive Commission.

- 00 -

Meeting of the Joint Executive Committee of the Boards and the Executive Commission.

Present: Revs. J. F. Carson and Wm. F. Foulkes, representing the Executive Commission; Revs. John Dixon and Stanley White, in the absence of Rev. A. W. Halsey; Rev. Robert Mackenzie, representing the Boards, and Rev. W. H. Hubbard, the Secretary.

Opened with prayer by Dr. Mackenzie.

1. Motion was made that the Joint Executive Committee recommend to all the Boards hitherto sending out programs and taking collections in Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies that this procedure be modified next year, to be brought into complete with the budget scheme.

This was question submitted to us by Dr Dixon

2. The Secretary is authorized to send notice to the several Boards taking collections in Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies that the Joint Executive Committee has the above resolution upon the docket for further consideration.

3. It was voted that inasmuch as General Assembly has instructed certain Boards to observe certain days in which to solicit contributions from Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies, it is understood by this Committee that the Boards should observe these days this year.

Reports on Y.P.'s Work from the Minutes of the General Assembly

~~young peoples~~ Permanent

1825

Princeton Theological Seminary

A very handsome quilt made by Miss Sophia M. Johnston, daughter of the Rev. John Johnston, Newburgh, New York, and finished when she was only three years, nine months and nine days old.

1877

Report - Board of Home Missions.

"Presbyterian Organisations - Mission Bands, Sabbath schools, Bible classes, Young Ladies in Seminaries and colleges, have sent forward their contributions."

We continue to receive encouragement from Sabbath schools. So many have become interested in our work, that in accordance with the record of the last General Assembly the Board has cheerfully arranged a column in our receipts for donations from Sabbath schools.

1878

Sabbath Schools - $10,822.70

1895

For Board of Home Missions

Sabbath Schools and the Y.P.S.C.E. - $47,074.28

For School Work

Societies and Bands -	$187,128.79
Sabbath Schools -	17,555.31
Y.P.S.C.E. -	5,600.21

1895

Officers

Rev. Thornton B. Penfield - Young People's Department.

1895

Miss E. M. Wishard - Secretary of Young People's Department.

1897

Owing to the fact that the past year has been the first of the consolidated departments of Young People's work, it has been a year of experiment. It has, however, believed that the presentation of the work of one Secretary at headquarters has simplified to the young people of the Church the mission work done under its auspices.

Systematic study and thorough knowledge of the needs will insure increased receipts year by year. The department has, therefore, striven toward those ends, and has been encouraged by the large number of contributing societies and by the demands for literature and definite information.

1898

After two years the consolidated department shows a larger number of societies contributing then ever before, and attributes this result to the faithfulness of the Synodical and Presbyterial secretaries of Young People's work, as in those districts where persistent, intelligent and methodical efforts have been made by these officers is the improvement the most marked.

1899

The Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Board have found study progress made in this joint department, because of the methodical presentation of the general work of Home Missions to the young people of the Church. This is facilitated by the use of the fine organisation of the Woman's Board, which, synodically, presbyterially and locally, provides a systematic means of reaching Christian Endeavor and other societies of young people.

The broad outlook taken by means of the presentation of specific objects in widely different fields has resulted in contributions to the support of missions and mission teachers in the mountains of the south, in Dakota, Arizona, Indian Territory, New Mexico and Utah, and also to the prosecution of the evangelistic and mission school work in Alaska. The interesting details of field work are secured to the young people by the pledge blanks they receive through the women's organizations and fill out in promise of contributions to the Board and the Woman's Board. It is the simple and impartial system; it has worked well, and to the manifest advantage of the treasury of the Board.

1905

We have pleasure in presenting herewith the report of the Young People's Department, which has had the approval of the Board:

1904.		1905.
$39,036.75	Sunday-schools,	$40,559.74
23,650.38	C.E. and other Junior C.E. Societies,	22,378.76
22,760.26	Other Y. P. Organizations,	25,064.95

In the summing up of the year's work of the Board of Home Missions, and in the monthly financial statements issued from the Treasurer's office, no figures are watched with keener interest than those representing the offerings from young people's organizations, for no contributions are less dependable, although in no department of our Church work is the "power of the littles" more fully demonstrated.

The average contribution for home missions from young people's societies is about $5.00, and the calls upon their treasuries are innumerable; but what our young people are doing for the evangelization of our country is much more than can be shown in the figures of this report.

1900

This department is primarily for the education of our young people in Home Missions; and in looking over the past year we note many encouraging signs.

Seventeen full salaries are paid by Endeavor Societies, ten of these being to ministers or Synodical Missionaries, and others superintendents of boarding or day schools. Junior C. E's. have paid the salaries of seven Indian pastors and have contributed toward a training school for boys. In several

1905 - continued

Sunday-schools - We are assured that the special programmes prepared for the "Sabbath preceding Thanksgiving" (for mission school work) and "the Sabbath nearest Washington's Birthday" (for the evangelistic work) are helpful to superintendents, and experience convinces us that many Sunday-schools would make no offering for home missions were it not for these special services - provided free to those who apply for them. The contributions from Sunday-schools were as follows:

Home Board	$17,879.90
Woman's Board	22,659.84

A gain for both sides, and a total gain from Sunday-schools of $1502.96.

Mission Bands - While the number of new Bands may not be larger than last year, reports from various sources indicate that home missions has an equal chance with foreign for the first time in the history of a number of these organizations, and we belive this is due to a more faithful "mothering" on the part of the women's societies to which they are auxiliary.

Junior Societies - For several years one general object has been assigned to Bands and Junior Societies, but a division of interest seemed advisable, and this year the maintenance of Endeavor Building - the charity building of the hospital group at San Juan, Porto Rico - was asked of the Juniors, while the general work of the Sitka Industrial School is still assigned to Bands. This change of object has proved popular, and the children have shown new enthusiasm through sending hospital supplies as well as money contributions.

Offerings - Contributions from young people's organizations were as follows:

Christian Endeavor and Junior Christian Endeavor	$29,378.76
Other Young People's Societies and Bands	25,064.93

An advance all along the line. It seems necessary to repeat each year the statement that no rule is enforced by which the young people are ordered to send their funds through one special channel.

instances the societies of one Presbytery, or a group of Sabbath-schools, have adopted one special worker, and in this way our young people are represented in all of our Home Mission fields, including Porto Rico. This department periodically provides letters from the different fields to all who desire them, those securing from contributors contimued interested in the special laborer assigned them. In addition to these salaries there has been an increase in contributions to the General Fund, showing that our young people are learning that the Endeavor Societies are equally divided between the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Board.

1901

The sum total of contributions from Christian Endeavor Societies is divided equally between the Board and the Woman's Board, according to the initial plan of the department, and special objects and salaries are equitably apportioned from both Boards.

The work is passing through synodical and presbyterial young people's secretaries to the local missionary committee, but correspondence with individuals is unlimited.

Sunday schools have come to the front more prominently this year and a more systematic, regular sending of funds is noticed. In short, the one word "advance" covers the work of this department, where Sunday schools and all young people's organizations have made a gain over last year.

1903

The Young People's Department is not a separate organization, but an integral part of the home mission work of the Presbyterian Church. Its aim is to arouse and stimulate interest in home missions among Presbyterian young people. The Presbyterial Young People's Secretaries are furnished free (from the New York office) with all necessary help in literature and letters from the field. In addition to sending out information in this way, correspondence is carried on suggesting methods for local work. One of the new features of the year is the inauguration of the study class scheme, and books are now being prepared to meet the needs of classes organized for the investigation of home mission fields. Two Sabbaths were given to Home Missions by our Sabbath-schools, by order of the General Assembly. For this occasion special programs were prepared, and over 92,000 copies furnished on application. Requests for special objects from the Sabbath-schools and Young People's Societies have increased, and in addition in most synods the young people's contribution to their "specials," include work of both missionary pastors and teachers

1910

Probably the clearest evidence of growth in this department is in mission study in young people's societies and Sabbath-schools. The text-book selected by the Young People's Missionary Movement and the Interdenominational Committee for last year was The Upward Path - a book on the Negro problem. The study of The Challenge of the City has been revived, perhaps because of the special problems in our larger cities and the great influx of foreigners. Our "helps" for this study course are limited, and the leaflets of the Church and Labor Departments have therefore been especially acceptable.

An ever widening interest is manifested in our printed field letters, programs and helps for missionary meetings........

The summer missionary conferences, institutes, rallies, and so forth, are of increasing value. The Presbyterian delegates afford opportunity for personal acquaintance and correspondence during the rest of the year, so that the young people are not allowed to forget home missions and the services of our Young People's Department can render their local missionary committees.

Special mention is made of personal presentation of home mission interests at the Sunday school gatherings, young people's meeting and conferences, during the last Assembly; and also at the National Christian Endeavor convention in Saint Paul.

Our Young People's Department has cooperated heartily with the corresponding departments in the Foreign Board, Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, in various ways, none more practical perhaps than the special effort to secure systematic study of missions in the Sabbath schools.

An unusual number of changes in presbyterial and synodical secretaries has somewhat complicated the correspondence of the year.

1911

The Secretary of this department presents her thirteenth annual report, which shows study progression. The printed leaflets, letters, mission study supplies and helps for missionary meethods are in very great demand, as they are attractive in form and valuable for general as well as specific information. Study classes have more than doubled during the past year; over 40,000 letters from mission fields, stations, or individuals have been furnished, special objects assigned, methods of work suggested, speakers and study class leaders provided for institutes and conferences, and a multitude of other details which show that the department is keeping this particular piece of the Church before our Presbyterian young people.

A gain of over one hundred chapters of the Westminster Guild is reported. The membership of this comparatively new organization is pledged to divide their study and gifts equally between the home and foreign missions, and also follow a course of Bible study.

These are but a few of the encouragements of the year. Contributions from the organizations of young people are as follows:

Sabbath Schools -	$48,964.27
Young People's Societies -	30,955.96
Young Ladies and Bands -	27,756.03

1913

Beginning with 1888 the Boards Reports show an "annual anniversary collection from the Sunday schools and Christian Endeavor Societies," for home missions. In 1893 the first itemized statement of these gifts was printed, and the fund reached over $8,000. By this time the young people demanded periodical information of the work toward which they were giving, and the officers of the Board could not give the attention required for such details. The Young People's Department was the result.

It is with pleasure, not unmingled with wonder, that we compare the financial records of the past fifteen years. In the first report of our present secretary (for the year 1898-1899), the statement shows $36,391 from Sunday schools, and $26,868 from the Christian Endeavor Societies. In 1902-1903, the figures were, in round numbers, Sunday schools, $38,000; Christian Endeavor and Juniors, $28,000; other young people, $23,000. In 1912-1913, the records stand: Sunday schools, $49,871.22; Young People's Societies, $27,486.82.

1917

Interest in missions in the societies for young people and children of the Church, Young Women's Societies, Young People's Societies, Westminster Guild Chapters and Circles, Light Bearers and Little Light Bearers, has been promoted by the appointment of 64 synodical and 397 presbyterial secretaries for young people's work. Contributions this year from the young people and children amounted to $62,323.47.

1896

The work of our Young People's Department has shown steady progress in the last year. While in many quarters the amounts of collections have decreased, the number of contributing organizations has increased. A few comparisons will serve to illustrate this. In the year 1894-5 there were 156 contributing societies of Christian Endeavor in the State of New York who gave $2093.84 directly to the Board. In the last year 233 societies gave $2477.31 directly to the Board. In Pennsylvania in 1894-5, 120 societies gave $398.75. Iowa shows a similar record for the year, while there is a marked falling off of receipts in Illinois, but almost twice as many contributing organizations.

In Sunday-schools the same interesting conditions are manifest in the various Synods. It is evident that the interest in this work is more general than ever before, but outside influences have been felt which have tended to reduce the amounts sent directly to the Board for Home Mission Work. The total amount received for Home Missions from the Young People of the Church for the year was $59,266.13.

In order to do the work which was precipitated upon the office, and to bring order out of chaos, it was necessary at first to employ two efficient young Secretaries who were familiar with the methods of these societies. The Board elected the Rev. Thornton B. Penfield, and the Woman's Executive Committee engaged Miss Elizabeth Wishard. With wisdom and success these young officers have managed their delicate and difficult task. So thoroughly has the work of organization been accomplished, both to the methods in the office and the adjustments throughout the Church, that it has been thought that one Secretary can hereafter conduct the affairs of the office.

The complete organization of the auxiliaries of the Woman's Executive Committee in the Synods, Presbyteries and churches, and their close touch with the societies of young people, suggest the wisdom of committing the management of this department to them, subject to the counsel and supervision of the Secretaries of the Board. The receipts from these societies are hereafter to be divided equally between the Board and the Woman's Executive Committee.

Mr. Penfield retires from the work with the well-earned gratitude of the Board for the rare skill and unflinching fidelity with which he has organized and conducted this new office.

Westminster
Guild